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# MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN.

SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 12, 1847.

William H. Blackman, Editor.

## DONATION TO HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

We learn from the Courier that the Hon. Abbott Lawrence has made to the Corporation of Harvard University a donation of FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, for the purpose of establishing a school of Practical Science, for the advancement of mechanics and the arts.

We copy an extract from Mr. Lawrence's letter to Mr. Eliot, the Treasurer of the Institution; and we may publish the remainder when we have more room. Mr. L. says:—

"BOSTON, June 7, 1847.

My Dear Sir,—I have more than once conversed with you upon the subject of establishing a school for the purpose of teaching the practical sciences, in this city or neighborhood; and was gratified when I learned from you that the Corporation of Harvard University had determined to establish such a school in Cambridge, and that a Professor had been appointed who is eminent in the science of Chemistry, and who is to be supported on the foundation created by the munificence of the late Count Rumford.

For several years I have longed to feel the pressing want in our community, (and in fact in the whole country,) of an increased number of men educated to the practical sciences. Elementary education appears to be well provided for in Massachusetts. There is no lack of facility in the means for higher education in certain branches of knowledge. For an early classical education we have our schools and colleges. From these, young men are sent to the universities of Europe, and to the various schools of medicine, law, divinity, and surgery, receive the young men destined to these professions; and those who look to commerce as their employment, pass to the counting house or the great.

But where can we send those who intend to devote themselves to the practical applications of science? How educate our engineers, our miners, our machinists and mechanics? Our country abounds in men of action. Hard hands are ready to work upon our land materials; and where shall sagacious heads be found to direct those hands?

Inventive men laboriously reinvent what has been produced before. Ignorant men fight against the laws of nature with a vain energy, and purchase their experience at great cost. Why should not all these start where their predecessors ended, and not where they began? Education can enable them to do so. The application of science to the useful arts and the character of the last half century, the condition and relations of the world. It seems to me that we have been somewhat negligent in the cultivation and encouragement of the scientific portion of our national community.

Our country is rapidly increasing in population and wealth, and is probably destined in another quarter of a century to contain nearly as many inhabitants as now exist in France and England together.

We have already in the United States a large body of young men who have received a classical education, many of whom find it difficult to obtain a livelihood in the terms to which they are accustomed. Education has arrived when we should make an effort to diversify the occupations of our people, and develop more fully their strong mental and physical resources, throughout the Union.

I have thought that the greatest practical branches to which a scientific education is to be applied amongst us, are, 1st, Engineering; 2d, Mining; in its extended sense, including meteorology; 3d, the invention and manufacture of machinery. These are the departments of knowledge, and the key to the processes by which the rude elements of nature are converted into the useful arts. Chemistry, mineralogy, and the other sciences, investigating the properties and uses of materials employed in the arts, Carpentry, Masonry, Architecture and Drawing, are all studies which should be pursued to a greater or less extent in one or all of these principal divisions.

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better reason. The external form of building is made to assume all manner of angles; it is fashionable.

Economy is disregarded, and what is called taste is a substitute, as if taste and utility were at war with each other. A first principle in building requires that the walls should enclose as much room as they conveniently can. Yet we find modern cottages including not half so much room as the same walls might include. They are built for ornament, and the builder is biased in contriving how many crooks or angles he can make meet together without letting the rains through before his work has been finished one year.

Pillars large enough to support a sawmill are erected in front of a cottage. And all the business they ever have is to hold up a slight wing, or a slight landing, which would support. Utility is not a leading idea and proportion is out of the question. Look at the wing of a fowl. God's work will afford a lesson in building. The feathers are made as light as possible consistent with strength.

So in building wheels for all kinds of vehicles, utility seems out of the question. This year we have straight, upright wheels. Last year the more dishing the more showy the work. At one time we have very high wheels; now low wheels run best; and the forward wheel is about as high as the hind one. Not a thought is bestowed on the consideration of the difference in the life of draft. The horse or ox drags a forward wheel as easily as he does a very high one; because in case of the low one his draft is more spread than on the high one. The hind wheels are moved by a horizontal draft, and should always be higher than the forward wheels.

Yet we find modern hind wheels quite high; while modern chaise wheels are high. Chaise wheels need never be so high as the hind wheels of coaches, because the draft on chaise wheels is upward and they overcome obstructions as readily and for the same reason, as the forward wheels of a coach.

If young mechanics could have proper theoretical instruction much would be gained in all the arts. We hope Mr. Lawrence's donation will afford an opportunity to mechanics in each department to study first principles. The best form for that very important article, the wheel, cannot be improved. And there is but one best rule for setting it on the axle. Can any of our mechanics demonstrate which is the best mode of setting?

THE NEW ORLEANS PAPERS are making merry with what they call Gen. Pillow's mistakes in engineering, and in military tactics—*tick-tacks*, as some call them—the old story of his ordering an embarkment on the wrong side of the river is revived, and we are told that the officers of his Brigade have now made a written statement of the errors committed by the General in the contest at Cerro Gordo. It is supposed that Gen. Pillow will demand a Court Martial. The New Orleans papers say he was bred to the law and was a partner of the President while he was in practice in Tennessee. He is now a Major General.

IF A friend desires us to invite attention to a mode of destroying the Curculio, practised by Mr. Cheever Newhall of Dorchester. Mr. N. takes a muffled mallet that will not bruise the limbs, and early in the morning, or at night, taps the limbs with his mallet and drops the game on to a white sheet underneath, where they may be put to death quick time. This mode has been practised. The only objection to it is the attendant labor. Now is the time to make war on the Curculio. There is no question but that the Curculio is the aggressor.

POCKET BOOKS TAKE NO CARE OF THEMSELVES.—Pence Hawes of Miller's Place, L. I., had his pocket picked on Wednesday evening, at the Eastern Depot. On Tuesday evening, George Cook lost his pocket book at the Howard Athenaeum.

We have these instances not for the benefit of the robbers, or the robbed, but for honest travellers who give too much encouragement to rogues.

IF A new clothing Store is established at No. 18 Dock Square. Mr. S. B. Appleton has a large stock of fashionable ready made clothing and gentlemen's furnishing articles which he offers very cheap for cash. He gives his personal attention to cutting and fitting garments. Friends and customers are invited to examine his assortment and prices.

IF Spring and Summer Fabrics, reasonable and fashionable are for sale cheap, and in abundance as advertised, at the original one price store, by G. W. Warren & Co., 192 Washington Street. This is the best system of dealing, to avoid trouble in trade.

ARTILLERY ELECTION. On Monday, the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company held its Anniversary, and its officers received their commissions from the Senior Member of the Council, the Hon. John P. Bigelow—the Governor being unwell and the Lieut. Governor not being in the State.

REAL ESTATE IN BOSTON. The dwelling house No. 3 Chesnut street, on a lot of 21-1/2 feet by 98 feet, was sold on Wednesday for \$13,025. The estate No. 373 Washington street, north west of the Adams House, consisting of a store and house and a strip of land connected with it, the whole containing 1977 feet, was sold for \$14,725, being about \$7.50 per foot.

THE WEATHER. We had two fine days for farmers, yesterday and Thursday. Nobody but the crows worked with coats or jackets on. Corn is picking up its head, and the ears come next—Good accounts are brought in of the prospects of the season. Plenty will come to the industrious worker.

A FARM AT A BARGAIN. A pretty little farm is offered for sale at a low price, the owner having a strong inclination to emigrate West. It lies on the great road leading from Franklin to Woonsocket Falls; two miles from Franklin Centre, and seven miles from the Falls.—Inquire at this office.

CELEBRATION AT BUNKER HILL. We learn that the anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill is to be celebrated at Charlestown in an appropriate manner, on the seventeenth. The city authorities are making arrangements for it.

THE STORE AND HOUSE NO. 531 Washington street, between Hollis and Cornhill streets, with 2,942 feet of land, measuring 18 feet 11 inches in the street, were sold on Wednesday, at \$4 per foot. Another lot at \$3.82 1-2 per foot.

THE BARRETT PATRIOT states that Mr. Benjamin F. Crocker, at Yarmouth Port, had one of his eyes entirely destroyed by the flying of the punch, which struck the ball of his eye, causing it to run from the socket.

MECHANICS IN BOSTON are complaining this year for want of business. Capitalists are speculating in treasury notes and government stocks in preference to loaning to builders, on mortgages.

THE MERRICK MANUFACTURING Company divides five per cent. for the last six months.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Under the title of "Homes and Haunts of the most eminent British Poets," Harper & Brothers have published two very entertaining volumes, well printed and neatly bound, which we take pleasure in commending to notice. Wm. Howitt is the author, who is well known as an able writer. Forty-one well engraved scenes embellish notes on as many Poets, among whom are Milton, Pope, Mrs. Hemans, Burns and Scott. The title is appropriate; the notices are not strictly biographical, but descriptive of their homes and haunts.

Also, "Associations Dismissed," a controversy between the N. Y. Tribune and the Courier and Enquirer, by H. Greeley and H. J. Raymond, in a closely printed pamphlet of 53 pages—and No. 24 of the Pictorial History of England, are issued from the press of Harper & Brothers. (Binney & Othman, agents, 1 Cornhill.)

Redding & Co. State street, have received the Farmers' Library and Monthly Journal of Agriculture for June, edited by J. S. Skinner, Esq. "Indian Corn," "Sheep Husbandry in the South," "Value of Lands in La Plata," "Agricultural Education in Virginia," and "Fattening Cattle," are among the topics taken up; the republication of Stephens's Book of the Farm is continued.—Greeley & McElrath are the publishers.

A party of seven or eight immigrants, sick, were found on Thursday morning, lying in Essex street. Some charitable person conveyed them to the yards near by, where they were taken by the city authorities and conveyed to Deer Island.

On our advertising page will be seen a notice of sale of some building lots in Needham, on the 17th of June.

THE MARKETS. Butter, veal, mutton, and hay, are lower this week.

SHIPWRECK AND LOSS OF LIFE.—Capt. McNeil, of the British brig James Raddon, arrived at New York on the 8th inst., from Liverpool, reports that on the 23d ult., when in lat. 42, lon. 50, spoke British schooner Newport, (of Stockton), from New York for Galway—she was the day previous filled in with two boats full of passengers and the crew of the Spanish ship Enlella, from Havana, bound to St. Sebastian in Spain. The E. on the 21st of May had run aground of a large iceberg, which she had on board, and she was wrecked. She was on the bow of the day of the disaster fifty-eight, and of whom thirty-four succeeded in getting into the boats. The remainder, twenty-four, went down with the ship. The Newport was short of provisions, water, and was supplied by Capt. McNeil. The vessel was taken to the island of St. Vincent. The Newport was also supplied with provisions by the French ship Ajax, arrived in New York. [Atlas.]

VESSEL BUILDING AT ESSEX. The Gloucester Telegraph says that "Twenty-five Schooners, averaging thirty tons, and one Brig of one hundred and fifty tons, have been built at Essex the present season. There are now on the stocks, and nearly ready to be launched, one Brig of about twenty tons, and one schooner of about twenty tons, in round numbers, about twenty-five hundred tons built this Spring. Reckoning that amount of tonnage at \$34 per ton, the average price paid by the purchasers of the vessels, we have the sum of \$8,500. The Col. expended in rigging, sails, &c. A very pretty business for one Spring's work.

A large portion of the above vessels have been purchased by the citizens of Gloucester.

FROM MEXICO. New York, June 9, 8 o'clock P. M. The Southern Mail brings a few Mexican details, but they are not important. There are some rumors that Herrera was elected President of Mexico. The Col. expended in rigging, sails, &c. A very pretty business for one Spring's work.

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FROM GEN. TAYLOR AND COL. DONIPHAN. An arrival at New Orleans on the 24th inst., from the Brazos, conveys the news of Doniphans' arrival at Paria, after a march of 1500 miles with about 1000 men and 16 pieces of artillery. Col. Mitchell, with an advance of Doniphans' command, including a picked party, was expected at Buena Vista on the 15th.

In passing through Durango, they took possession of a small fort, sent Captain 21 privates, and a detachment of the 10th regiment of infantry, from Indiana, arrived at New Orleans 26th ult., on their way to the seat of war.

Another requisition upon Missouri. The War Department has called upon the Governor of Missouri for a battalion of five companies of mounted volunteers, to serve "during the war with Mexico," and to occupy the posts to be established on the Oregon.

THE PACIFIC SQUADRON. The New Orleans Pleasure ship arrived on the 25th of April the American squadron, consisting of six or eight vessels, were off Mazatlan, and that a thousand men were to disembark and take the town. The citizens of Mazatlan were making preparations to defend the town. The squadron also intended to capture San Blas.

THAT MAN HAD BEEN "OUT." A man got up the other night, and took a long walk, a card of matches, and began to break off one by one, trying to light a lamp, until the whole card was used up, without accomplishing his object, when he discovered he had used up his wife's comb!

It has been decided by Judge Parsons, of Philadelphia, that the "good will" of a newspaper establishment is a right which passes to the owner's heirs.

O. K.—Premise says that the ladies have found out the true meaning of these mysterious capitals, which is—Only Kissing.

## MARRIAGES.

In this city, by Rev. Mr. Hayward, Mr. Seth S. Gilman to Miss Mary Ann Foster, of East Bridgewater, to Miss Corbell, of Boston, on the 21st inst.

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GEN. SCOTT'S ADVANCE. The advance of our army to Puebla taken up a little by surprise. Gen. Worth has entered the large town of Puebla, and received the courtesies of the High Dignitaries of the Church—the most potent authorities in Mexico. Santa Anna, in the meantime, abandoning his position at Orizaba, has pushed ahead of Worth, with his usual promptitude and rapidity, on the road from Puebla to Mexico.

It is said he has 10,000 men with him, and will make another stand at a formidable point on the road—at Rio Rio. The road, for some distance beyond Puebla, is excellent, but near Cordoba it crosses the mountains, and passes through deep, narrow defiles and over steep and rugged heights. The country is wild looking, thinly wooded with oaks and pines, and rendered very rough and uneven by rocks of lava and porphyry.

At Cordoba, a little village or hacienda, the road begins to wind along the side of the mountain, in many places cut through solid rock. Here the road is commanded by the heights of Popocatepetl, which if occupied by strong batteries, would render the passage of an army over this steep, rugged, and exposed ascent, a task of very great danger and difficulty.

But, even when the heights are passed, the difficulties and obstacles of the position are not entirely surmounted; for the road descends into a deep narrow dell, where a small brave force might operate with great effect upon a large army accompanied by long trains of mules and baggage. The road is traversed by the Rio Rio (Cold River) where our brave soldiers may assume their thirst after the labor of this difficult passage.

The Rio Rio is the only point on the road, between Puebla and Mexico, which is likely to give our army any trouble. It is midway between the two cities; when it is passed, the road to the capital is smooth and delightful, and the obstacles of the position are not entirely surmounted; for the road descends into a deep narrow dell, where a small brave force might operate with great effect upon a large army accompanied by long trains of mules and baggage.

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It is said he has 10,000 men with him, and will make another stand at a formidable point on the road—at Rio Rio. The road, for some distance beyond Puebla, is excellent, but near Cordoba it crosses the mountains, and passes through deep, narrow defiles and over steep and rugged heights. The country is wild looking, thinly wooded with oaks and pines, and rendered very rough and uneven by rocks of lava and porphyry.



SALES THIS WEEK. The Norwich Courier gives the story of a fellow called Saturday Guy, a... CLOTH & CLOTHING WAREHOUSE. No. 18 Dock square, BOSTON. SAMUEL B. APPLETON, TAILOR AND DRAPER. Ready-Made Clothing, CAPS, UMBRELLAS, AND FURNISHING GOODS. MARKING DOWN AT THE LADIES' EXCHANGE. GEO. W. WARREN & CO. New Goods, FANCY AND STAPLE. Door, Blind & Sash DEPOT! 127 Washington Street. To Nurserymen and Horticulturists. CALROW & CO. FASHIONABLE DRAPERS AND TAILORS, AND MANUFACTURERS OF GENTEEL Ready-Made Clothing. Goods, SPRING CLOTHING. Dress and Frock Coats, GARMENTS. BROADCLOTHS. DRESSING ROOMS. SUMMER GOODS. RICH FURNISHING GOODS. JEWETT & PRESCOTT. New Silk and Shawl Store. A Book for Every Farmer. JOHN P. JEWETT & CO. THE AMERICAN VETERINARIAN. A Voice to the Sick. New Medical Books. THE GARDENER AND COMPLETE FLORIST. THE COMPLETE HORSE DOCTOR.



